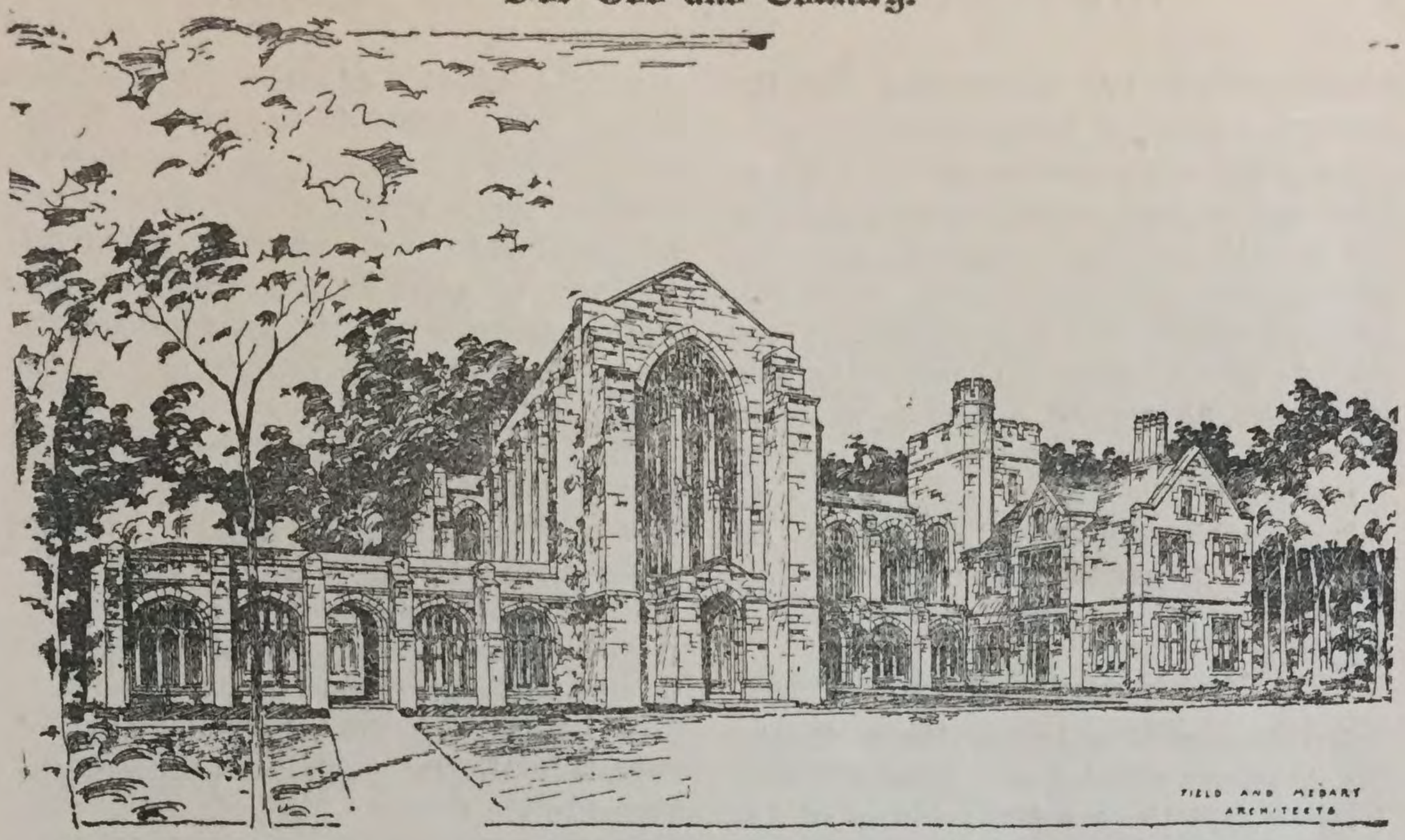
"For God and Country."



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory.

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

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An Urgent Need.

The acquisition of Washington's Marquee has greatly increased the historic value of the Valley Forge Museum of American History. The presence of such a relic, so valuable in itself, so intimately connected with the men and events through whom and by which American Independence was won, adds to the dignity and the importance of the other relics, and is a pledge of the purpose of the founder of the Museum to make it worthy of the serious consideration of students of history and of the support of American patriots. For Washington's Marquee is not the last great relic that will be brought to Valley Forge, although no other will equal it.

The present arrangements for the exhibition of the Marquee are utterly inadequate. The congested condition of the single room in which the collections are crowded has made it impossible to show more than one half of the tent. A room should be erected at once, large enough to contain the tent completely set up, surrounded with such accompaniments as will reproduce its appearance

when occupied by Washington on the snow clad hills of Valley Forge.

For $2500 such a room can be built as a permanent part of the Patriots' Hall, in which this precious treasure may be safeguarded against fire and vandalism, and exhibited as it deserves. There should be no delay in beginning this work, and an earnest appeal is made to American patriots to carry it to a speedy completion. The list of contributors to this "Washington Room" will be an honor roll of patriotism.

Washington's Marquee.

Mr. George Washington Parke Custis, Washington's adopted son, counted Washington's tent the greatest treasure of Arlington House and the most precious heirloom of the Father of his Country. This "Pretorium of Valor," as it has been called, has had a remarkable history, which may be briefly summarized as follows:

The sleeping tent and larger dining-tent were made in Philadelphia, 1775, and first set up on Dorchester Heights.

Throughout the War of the Revolution these tents were used in the campaigns, and even when Washington occupied a house as his headquarters the sleeping-tent was set up for his private use. Within it he planned his campaigns, consulted with his officers, wrote letters and drafted despatches, slept and prayed.

After the war the tent was first stored in the garret at Mount Vernon. Later, when Mr. Custis built Arlington House, the tents were carried there and stored. Before his death Mr. Custis presented the dining-tent to the Government.

At the death of Mr. Custis the sleeping-tent with the other relics of Washington and the Arlington estate were inherited by his daughter, Mrs. Robert E. Lee.

Upon the breaking out of the Civil War Lee resigned his commission in the United States army, and became commander-in-chief of the Confederate Army. Mrs. Lee left Arlington House, and later the estate was seized by the Union Army. The tent and other relics of Washington were removed to Washington and by order of Secretary Stanton were transferred to the Interior Department, and placed on exhibition in the Patent Office.

Mrs. Lee appealed to President Johnson in 1869 for the restoration of these personal relics of Washington, and the order for their transfer was given, but the House of Representatives interfered.

The tent and other relics were removed to the National Museum in 1883.

In 1903, under the administration of President McKinley, the relics were restored to the family.

On May 27, 1907, the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, Minister in Charge of the Washington Memorial Chapel, secured from Miss Mary Custis Lee, the daughter of Mrs. Robert E. Lee, and the owner of the tent, an option for its purchase at $5000, and on August 19, 1909, made the first payment of $500, contributed by friends of the Chapel, and received the tent, minus one-half of the side wall, from Miss Lee's representative and the curators of the National Museum. The following day, 131 years after it was carried from Valley Forge it was set up in the Valley Forge Museum of American History.

By the terms of the contract the balance of $4500 is to be paid within five years, the tent to be exhibited for the purpose of raising that amount. Miss Lee will devote the proceeds to the support of the "Old Confederate Woman's Home," in Richmond, of which she is the president.

The tent is made of heavy linen, and is 23 feet long and 12 feet wide, with circular ends. Some vandal has cut a large piece from the top, and one-half of the side wall is missing. Otherwise the tent is in excellent condition. On the inside near the back there is a line of tape to

"Recollections and Private Memoirs of Washington," compiled from the files of "The National Intelligenger," printed at Washington, and first published in book form in 1859. The following is taken from the article entitled "The Headquarters." This is Chapter IX in Lossing's edition, published in the following year.

"The Headquarters were under canvas during the siege and after the surrender of Yorktown. The marquees of the Commander-in-Chief were pitched in the rear of the grand battery, just out of range of the enemy's shells. There were two marquees attached to the Headquarters during all the campaigns. The larger, or banqueting tent, would contain from forty to fifty persons; the smaller or sleeping tent had an inner chamber, where, on a hard cot-bed, the Chief reposed. There is a most interesting reminiscence attached to the sleeping tent. The Headquarters, even during the summer season, were located, in a great majority of instances, in private dwellings, the sleeping tent being pitched in the yard or very near at hand. Within its venerable folds, Washington was in the habit of seeking privacy and seclusion, where he could commune with himself, and where he wrote the most memorable of his despatches in the Revolutionary war. He would remain in the retirement of the sleeping tent sometimes for hours, giving orders to the officer of his guard that he should on no account be disturbed, save on the arrival of an important express. The objects of his seclusion being accomplished, the Chief would appear at the canvas door of the marquee with despatches in his hand, giving which to his secretary to copy and transmit, he would either mount his charger for a tour of inspection, or return to the Headquarters and enjoy social converse with his officers."

"The marqueés were made in Third street, Philadelphia, under the direction of Captain Moulder, of the artillery, and were first pitched on the Heights of Dorchester, in August, 1775."

In describing the "Arlington Sheep-Shearing," instituted by Mr. Custis, his daughter, Mrs. Mary Custis Lee, says: "Under the great war-tent of Washington, yet preserved at Arlington House, many of the noblest men of the land assembled on these festivals, when they were entertained in a most generous manner by the host, who usually made a stirring speech appropriate to the occasion."

The "great war-tent" was evidently the dining tent described by her father, which he afterwards presented to the Government.

This is mentioned by Miss Lee in the following, part of a letter to Mr. Burk: "There were three tents, but the larger one was presented by my grandfather to the Government before his death; and these two smaller ones are both more interesting, as they were his personal living and sleeping tents. Doubtless he used them also at Valley Forge. They were only rolled up and put in their leathern cases at Yorktown; coming then first to 'Mount Vernon,' afterwards to 'Arlington,' where I remember them as a child piled up in the garret."

There can be little doubt that Miss Lee's conjecture is a true one. Washington did not occupy the home of Isaac Potts at Valley Forge until Christmas Day. The first and hardest week was spent under canvas, sharing the sufferings of his soldiers. In his orders issued on the eve of leaving Gulph Mills for the new encampment at Valley Forge he said (December 17, 1777): "We must make ourselves the best shelter in our power. With activity and diligence, huts may be erected that will be warm and dry. The General persuades himself that the Officers and Soldiers with one heart and one mind will resolve to surmount every difficulty with fortitude and patience becoming their profession and the sacred cause in which they are engaged. He,

himself, will share in the hardships and partake of every inconvenience."

After such words as these we are not surprised to find that he did not at once seek a comfortable farmhouse in which to establish himself, but in fact did occupy his marquée. This was pitched on the slope of Mt. Joy, not far from the site of Fort Washington. Here, beneath the scanty shelter of this tent he wrote that memorable defence of his poor soldiers, in which he said:

"We have, by a field-return this day (Dec. 23) made, no less than two thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight men now in camp unfit for duty, because they are barefoot and otherwise naked. By the same return it appears, that our whole strength in Continental troops, including the eastern brigades, which have joined us since the surrender of General Burboyne, exclusive of the Maryland troops sent to Wilmington, amounts to no more than eight thousand two hundred in camp fit for duty; notwithstanding which, and that since the 4th instant, our numbers fit for duty, from the hardships and exposures they have undergone, particularly on account of blankets (numbers having been obliged, and still are, to sit up all night by fires, instead of taking comfortable rest in a natural and common way), have decreased near two thousand men.

"We find gentlemen, without knowing whether the army was really going into winter-quarters or not (for I am sure no resolution of mine would warrant the Remonstrance), reprobating the measure as much as if they thought the soldiers were made of stocks or stones, and equally insensible of frost and snow; and moreover, as if they conceived it easily practicable for an inferior army, under the disadvantages I have described ours to be, which are by no means exaggerated, to confine a superior one, in all respects well-appointed and provided for a winter's campaign, within the city of Philadelphia, and to cover from depredation and waste the States of Pennsylvania and Jersey. . . . I can assure these gentlemen, that it is a much easier and less distressing thing to draw remonstrances in a comfortable room by a good fireside, than to occupy a cold, bleak hill, and sleep under frost and snow, without clothes or blankets. However, although they seem to have little feeling for the naked and distressed soldiers, I feel superabundantly for them, and, from my soul, I pity those miseries, which it is neither in my power to relieve or prevent."

The amount to be paid for the marquée is Five Thousand Dollars, and by the terms of the agreement Five Hundred Dollars are to be paid on the delivery of the tent to Mr. Burk. The balance of Forty-five Hundred Dollars is to be paid within five years. To raise this amount the tent will be placed on exhibition and the receipts, less than ten per cent., will be sent every month to Miss Lee's bankers, Burke and Herbert, Alexandria, Va.

Every cent of this money will be devoted to charity. Miss Lee is President of the "Old Confederate Woman's Home" in the city of Richmond, and she will use the money received from the sale of the tent for the support of this splendid charity.

Mr. Burk is sending out appeals for contributions for the erection of another room of the Patriots' Hall in which the tent may be erected for exhibition. Twenty-five hundred dollars will be needed for this purpose. As soon as this is built the other exhibits in the Museum will be again free to the public. Temporarily an admission will have to be charged for the Museum, unless the present room can be divided by a fire-proof partition. As the money paid will be really for the purchase of the tent the tickets of admission will be receipts for contributions. Larger sums will be thankfully received for this patriotic purpose.

Washington Memorial Chapel,
Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE,
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

THE REV. FRANCIS T. H. FINN
ASSISTANT,
PORT KENNEDY.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.
Mr. Leslie Jefferis,
Treasurer of the Building Fund,
Bridgeport, Pa.
William Rumford, Sexton.

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Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Stewart Fund Hall

Sundays.

10.00 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

11.00 A. M. Service and Sermon.

Calendar.

AUGUST.

15. Tenth Sunday after Trinity.
22. Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.
24. St. Bartholomew's Day. 10 a. m. Holy Communion.
29. Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.

SEPTEMBER.

1. Guild meeting, 2.30 p. m., Parish House.
5. Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
12. Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity. 10.30 a. m., Service, Sermon and Holy Communon.

Mrs. Muscoe M. Gibson has added to our Civil War collection a packet of soldiers' stationery, such as was sold to the soldiers of the Union, with illuminated headings and envelope corners.

Honor Roll for July.

The following missed no session of the Sunday School during July:

Bible Class.—Mr. E. T. Boggs, teacher. Miss Stoddart.

Class No. 2. Girls' Class.—Miss A. W. Pechin, teacher. Eleanor Andrews, Alva Andrews and Martha Andrews.

Class No. 3. Boys' Class.—Rev. F. T. H. Finn, teacher. Charles Gebhardt, John Colgan, Frank Zaun, John Hughes, David Beynon.

Class No. .4 Infant Class.—Miss Mary S. Stephens, teacher. Margaretta Gebhardt, Grace Blackburn, Edna Zaun, Helen McCurdy.

The floral decorations in the Chapel have been greatly admired, and all the members of the congregation are indebted to the care and skill of Mrs. Zulick for the beauty which has enhanced the attractiveness of the services.

Mrs. J. L. Hoy and her co-workers are to be congratulated upon the success which crowned their efforts in the second annual lawn fete in Valley Forge. It shows what can be done by a mere handful, when working earnestly. At least worty dollars will be added to the Building Fund.

The only picture added to our collection during the month is an excellent photogravure of Major General Mitchell Varnum, who commanded the brigade next to the Chapel site. The copy was given by Mr. John M. Varnum, of Boston, through Mr. R. L. P. Reifsneider, of Norristown. The original is owned by Mr. James Mitchell Varnum, of New York City.

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By placing a dormer window in the roof of the choir room and the removal of the cupboard to the kitchen, additional light has been secured for the Museum. This was much needed in order to permit the visitors to properly examine the exhibits.

The Valley Forge Museum.

Mrs. Jacob Wager has given the brass knocker which was for many years on the old Benjamin Wager house, below Norristown. This is the first knocker received. It is a beautiful illustration of this old time combination of art and use. Mrs. Wager has also given Benjamin Wager's brass writing case. It is four inches long, and one-half inch in diameter. It contains a brass pen and holder, a knife blade which screws into the end of case for a handle, and a piece of steel. To these gifts she has added the old lancet used by her husband years ago in bleeding his cattle.

Mr. and Mrs. George Carney have given the hat worn by their son David at the opening of the Spanish-American War and a half dime, 1837, found by him on the battlefield of Bull Run. He belonged to the 6th Regt., Pa. Vols. Mrs. Carney gave the ring made from a percussion fuse by her brother John Cole, 138th Regt. Pa. Vols.

Mrs. Anna M. Nyce, of Norristown, has given the following unused issues, Postage Currency, 5, 15, 25 and 50 cents. She has also given a used Fractional Currency Note, 25 cents, and an "Indented Bill" of Ten Shillings "of the Counties of New Castle, Kent and Sussex, on Delaware."

Mrs. Emma C. Jones, of Norristown, who presented the large silk standard of the Washington Guards, of Montgomery County, described in the May number of the Chronicle, has lately given the red and white top drooping plume, worn by her father, Captain Wagner. It is in excellent state of preservation, although it may have been worn at the dedication of the Paoli monument, in 1840.

One of the graceful custard cups of the olden time has been given by Miss Annie B. Molony. It has been in the Jonathan Philips family for many years. It is of English china, with a pleasing decoration. So far our collection of china is small.

The Pews of the Patriots.

Only three of the Pews of the Patriots remain untaken, exclusive of the Presidents' Pew. The Colonel James Livingston Pew is the gift of the late Mrs. Ellwood M. Corson from whom she was descended. This pew is among those now being made in Philadelphia and will be sent to the Chapel in a short time.

The following is the arrangement of the Pews, with their numbers:

ALTAR

1. Presidents' Pew.*	2. Joseph Shippen Pew.
3. Samuel Runk Pew.	4. Thomas Cummings Pew.
5. Benjamin Franklin Pew.†	6. Christopher and Christiana Pechin Pew.
7. Col. Patrick Anderson Pew.	8. Col. William Dewees Pew.
9. Jacob and John Kingsbury Pew.	10. Continental Army Pew.
11. Richard Currie Pew.	12. Gen. James Potter Pew.
13. Col. Clement Biddle Pew.	14. Rev. Stephen Bloomer Balch Pew.
15. Rev. Robert Blackwell Pew.	16. The Hussey Pew.
17. Col. John Nixon Pew.	18. The Corey-Downing-Gardner Pew.
19. Col. James Livingston Pew.	20. (Reserved.)
21. Capt. John Douglass Pew.	22. (Reserved.)
23.	24.
25.	

*Not given. †Fund incomplete.

The Pew Screens have been designed by Mr. Medary, the architect, and will be among the most handsome furnishings in the Chapel. In the thirteen panels will be placed the battle flags of the War of the Revolution, and on the shields below will be carved the names of generals who led the forces. The ends will correspond with those of the pews. On the buttresses which divide the screens will be carved the angels of the God of hosts, as representative of that providence so often acknowledged by Washington as signally manifested in the struggle in which he and the American patriots were engaged.

A perfectly fresh three cent note of 1863 has been given by Mr. Edward Ramsey, of Philadelphia.

Martha Washington Guild and the Birthday Box.

The annual meeting of the Guild was held on Wednesday, September 1st, in the Parish Building. The usual order of business followed. In the absence of the secretary, Miss Zinser was appointed to take the minutes. The treasurer read her annual report which was encouraging. The resignation of the Vice President, Mrs. Colket Walker, and of the treasurer, Mrs. Leslie Jefferis, were reluctantly accepted. Mr. Burk took the chair to conduct the meeting for the annual election. The following were unanimously elected:

President, Mrs. Charles Wells Walker.
Vice President, Mrs. Leslie Jefferis.
Treasurer, Mrs. Nathan Hughes.
Secretary, Miss Crawford.

The meeting adjourned to meet on Wednesday, October 6th, at Stewart Fund Hall, King-of-Prussia.

The Valley Forge Museum.

To Mr. Geo. W. Heaton, of Norristown, belongs the distinction of having given the oldest newspaper in our collection. It is the "General Advertiser," of Philadelphia, for November 25, 1805, published by William Duane, the successor of Benjamin Franklin Bache. The paper was a daily.

To the Civil War collection have been added the cap and sash worn by First Lieutenant Bayard Wilkeson, who was killed at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863, while commanding Battery G., 4th U. S. Artillery. Lieutenant Wilkeson was at that time only 19. He was the great-grandson of Colonel James Livingston, whose attack upon the "Vulture" was such a factor in the capture of Andre and the exposure of Arnold. The mementoes are the gift of Miss K. C. Corson, of Norristown.

Our collection of coins has been increased by the gift of a silver half dollar of 1836, the gift of Miss Annie B. Molony.

Mrs. Sarah A. Molony has given a cabinet photograph of General John Frederick Hartranft, purchased in Norristown on the day of his funeral in 1889.

Mr. Frank S. Huston has presented the silk banner of Wayne Division, Sons of Temperance.

Mrs. Ellen Pawling Schall, of Norristown, has presented the epaulets, shoulder straps, and sash worn during the Civil War by her late husband, Lieutenant Colonel George Schall, Co. E, 51st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, and also his military badges and buttons. In addition to these she has given a copy of "Letters of an Italian Nun and an English Gentleman. Translated from the French of J. J. Rosseau." It was printed in Philadelphia by James Carey in 1786. The book has a deep personal interest as it was presented to Mary Elizabeth Hiester Pawling, the wife of Levi Pawling, Esquire, by her father, Joseph Pawling, Governor of Pennsylvania, who during the Revolution was one of the prisoners in the "Jersey" prison ship. The name of Levi Pawling is of local interest as it was he who gave the ground on which St. John's Church, Norristown, now stands.

Included in Mrs. Schall's gift is an old German book printed at Chemnitz in 1783, entitled "Evangelischer Bericht von dem Leben Jesus Christi, Welches Nicodemus, ein Rabbi und Oberster der Juden, beschrieben," and three notes, fractional currency of the United States and four Confederate stamps.

Miss Abbie Reeves Carter has given a whale oil lamp to the Museum. The lamp is a quaint affair, and is evidently very old. The donor is one of our youngest contributors.

A Rummage Sale will be held at the Patterson residence, Port Kennedy, the first week in October. It is requested that all contributions be sent as early as possible to Mrs. Charles Wells Walker, Devon, Pa.

A VALLEY FORGE ORDERLY BOOK.

Printed by Courtesy of Its late Owner, Mr. George Clifford Thomas.

Head Quarters Valley Forge Jany 11th, 1778.

Major Genl.....Tomorrow.....Ld Starling
Brigadier..... do .....Woodford
Field officers .....Major Ponners & Major Hay
Brigade Major.... .. ..Mc Clure

At a Genl Court Martial held 3rd Inst. in Lord Starlings division whereof Lt Colo Brearly was President—John Rea Quarter Masr of the 6th Pensylvania Regit Charged with fraudulent Practices in said Regt Ordering Lt Gibbons in the Provost, & behavour unbecomg. The Charecter of an Officer or Gentleman Was tryed And by the Unanimously Oppinion of the Court was found Guilty of a Breach of the 21st Article of the 14th Section of the Articles of War, and Sentenced to be discharged from the Service.—At the same Court Martial held the 6th Inst. was Tryed Lt Hays of the 12th Pensylvania Regt Charged with Braking Open officers Chests At Bethlehem and ungentleman like behavour, The Court Unanimously Acquit him of the 1st Charge. But find him Guilty of a Breach of the 5th Article 18th Section of the Articles of War, & Sentence him to be dismissed from The Service.—The Commander in Chief Approves the Sentence and order it to be Carried Into execution Accordingly.—So many days Fresh Provision are to be Issued to the Troops Tomorrow morning as will compleat them to Wednesday next Inclusively.—

Head Quars. Valley Forge Jany 12th, 1778.

Major Genl ..Tomorrow Marquis La Fayette
Brigadier..... do ..... .Scotts
Field officers..... Colo. Shrier Major Furnald
Brigade Major..... Baily

The detachments order'd to Relieve Colo Morgan and take post at the Gulph Mills are to be on the Grand Perade and Ready to March Tomorrow Morning at Sun Rise with their provision Compleated till next wednesday Inclusively.—The Commissary Genl of Hides is to Keep Acct of the Number of Cattle Issued for the Army that the Number of Hides may be assertained & duly Accounted for to the Commissary of Hides.—

The Brigade Commissaries to Apply fourthwith To their Respective Brigadiers or officer Commanding Brigade, and with their Approbation fix upon a plan for collecting all the dirty Tallow, and saveing the Ashes for the purpose of Making Soft Soap for the use of the Army; also for Imploying proper persons to Boil the Oil out of the feet of The Bullocks and preserve it for the Use of the Armey. This Oil is to be put in Casks & deliv'd to the Qr Mr Genl.—

The Brigade Qr Masrs are to see that the orders of the 9th Inst. for Building Racks for the Horses be properly Complyed with That the Wagon Masters pay proper Attention to the Horses & that every Soldier caught On Horseback be Immediately Confined & punished.—

Lieut. Stagg of Colo Malcombs Regt. is appointed Brigade Majr P T in the Brigade Late Genl. Conways &c.—A detachment of 150 Men Are to perade tomorrow Morning at Nine OClock on the Grand Perade, Taking nothing in their pack but their Blanketts & provision.—Colo-Stewart is to take command of this detachment.—

(To be continued.)

A carload of coal was procured at wholesale rates for the winter's supply at the chapel. This was hauled through the kindness of Mr. George Yarrow, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. William Currie Wilson and Mr. Charles Wells Walker.

This means a great saving to the Guild and is much appreciated.

Among the recent visitors to the Chapel and Museum were ex-Governor Pennypacker, Dr. Jordan, of the Valley Forge Park Commission and Mr. Bowen, the superintendent of the Park.